

THE SPORTING SECTION OF THE SUNDAY JOURNAL

SPORTING EDITORIAL PAGE

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BATON, O.—J. V. Wilkie, 29 South Jefferson

street.

COLUMBUS, O.—Vladimir News Stand, 239 High

street.

BEND, O.—C. R. Crose, - Sporting Editor

Q. Young has pitched thirty innings with-

out a run being scored off him.

The Fogs have been developing some

very good scores in the spring bowling ses-

sion.

A Brooklyn enthusiast has suggested

to President Pullman that the name of each

player be strapped on his back.

The fighting blood of that brood which

John McGraw keeps under his wing is fed

by fifty pounds of raw beef daily.

Chief Zimmer says that he has found um-

ping a pleasant task. It would not do for

every person to be of the same opinion.

It looks as if the team that will win the

National League pennant will be the one

that will beat New York out in the race.

Pittsburg has practically the same team

that won the pennant last year, but

Clark's men are beginning to look like

tailenders.

Christy Mathewson has developed so

many bumps this season that he intends

to consult a phenologist on returning to

New York.

If Demottville should make good at

short notice, Indianapolis fans will welcome

him with open arms when the team re-

turns home.

With pleasant weather in Cincinnati to-

day there should be about seven million

paid admissions at the game between the

Reds and Giants.

Barney Dreyfuss insists that there are

more farmed players than ever. Evidently

the threats of dire punishment to offenders

were regarded as just so much hot air.

Noblesville fans will petition Manager

Phillips to assign Johnny Fisher to the

club on Decoration day afternoon. Half

of the population of Noblesville will witness

the game if Fisher pitches.

The Cincinnati Reds are starting the sea-

son the same way they have been doing in

the past three years. It remains to be seen

whether they will take their usual slump

as their first Eastern trip.

Oscar Gardner, who has been aching to

get back in the ring, has finally got on a

match, and the once game little fighter is

due to be seen in the squared circle before

another month has gone by.

When Ames gets into shape again the

pitching department of the New York Na-

tionals will be strengthened. The star twir-

ler will never again try to pitch a ball

through a three-inch plank on his first day

out.

After a seven months' sojourn in Aus-

tralia, where he won more than \$10,000 in

cycle racing, Iver Lawson has returned to

New York and is now in training with a

view of supplanting Kramer as the cham-

pion this year.

While Washington is a weak organiza-

tion, it must not be forgotten that the ab-

sence of Pitcher Orth has handicapped the

club seriously. With Orth in shape the

Senators might be able to win at least one

DELANEY'S CAREER.

Much of the success of James J. Jeffries is due to the untiring efforts of Trainer Billy Delaney, the man who surprised the sporting world with the announcement that he intended to retire from the athletic game within the next year. Delaney has been in the game for over twenty years, and in all that time he has never been connected with any shady transactions of any kind. Although he trained such men as Buffalo Gonzelo, "Denver Ed" Smith, in his first trip to the coast, and seconded Jack Dempsey in his early fights at Frisco, it was not until he took hold of Jim Corbett that his fame as a trainer became world-wide. It was Delaney who seconded Corbett in his famous fight with Joe Choynski on the barge near Frisco, which Corbett won on a knock-out in twenty-seven rounds. After this Corbett did not engage in any important contests until he met Peter Jackson. This was twenty-one rounds and was declared "no contest" by Hiram Cook, the referee. Delaney prepared Corbett for the battle. Corbett's next great fight was with John L. Sullivan, at New Orleans, in which Corbett won the championship. Delaney trained and seconded Corbett against Sullivan.

After this contest Corbett was on the road about three years, all of which time Delaney was with him. During that time, however, Corbett cut the road for a short time to go in training for his match with Charley Mitchell. Delaney trained and seconded him in this also. The next big fight Corbett had was with Bob Fitzsimmons, at Carson City. This took place in 1897. Delaney prepared Corbett to meet Fitz. Delaney had hired a young fellow named Jim Jeffries to act as Corbett's sparring partner, while in training at Carson. Jeffries was a young and husky youth, and Delaney became impressed with the way he handled himself. He knew what a great fighter Corbett was, and was surprised with the able manner Jeffries stood off Corbett. Then he turned his attention to the man who had been Corbett's sparring partner. The first man Delaney matched Jeffries with was Theodore Van Buskirk, at San Francisco. Jeff knocked him out in the second round. Then he whipped Dick Baker. Then came Jeffries' fight with Gus Ruhlin. This was really the first good fight that Jeffries had met up to that time. The bout went twenty rounds to a draw. He then boxed Joe Choynski a twenty-round draw. Then came other fights in which Jeffries was returned the winner. He won the championship from Bob Fitzsimmons. Since that time he has come out victorious in every fight, and to the untiring efforts of Trainer Delaney is due most of his success.

HOOSIERS DOING WELL.

If the young and old men on the Indianapolis baseball team continue throughout the western trip as they have started there will be no great kick coming. Baseball fans are the quickest persons on earth to forgive and forget the poor work of the players, and if the team rounds into form and wins half or more of the remaining games before returning home everything will be lovely. Maybe Demottville has recovered from his case of dumps and is willing to go after everything that comes to his territory. The scores from the Northwest show that he has played a pretty fair game and it is to be hoped that he will continue to do good work at short. It is a difficult position to fill, and if Demottville proves to be the goods he will fill a long-felt want. After being unmercifully trounced in the first game at St. Paul, the Hoosiers got revenge by handing out a couple of shut-outs to the Saints and finished the series with honors even. It is believed that if the Hoosiers get out of Minneapolis without losing their nerve they will go to Milwaukee and Kansas City and make a cleaning.

A QUAKER KNOCK.

A knock has come from Philadelphia that is to be taken with a bag of salt. Manager Hugh Duffy, of the Philadelphia team, has started a sensation by declaring that the Pittsburg team, three times a pennant winner, is playing possum and laying down, so as to make a race later in the season. He made a statement after his team had trimmed the Pirates twice, and further expressed himself that the champions cannot win about when they please, but in spite of their bad start this year would win the pennant again.

BASEBALL STARS OF FIFTEEN YEARS AGO

At New York the other day the fans began to compare the Boston champions with the stars of years ago. Said Jack Morse: "The general average of ball playing may have improved the last fifteen years, but there are no individual players on the diamond now equal to those of the past. There is not at the present day—and I don't believe there ever will be again—a catcher who can hold a general all-around playing I consider Ewing the greatest player who ever wore a uniform."

THE MEN WHO SUPPORT THE RACING GAME

Illustrated Sporting News. Who are the men who make racing? From the members of the august Jockey Club, which is all powerful in its government of the turf in New York State, to the lowly but well-fixed betting commissioner in the clubhouse on the metropolitan tracks, a long list of notable persons is titled with the racing of blue-blooded thoroughbreds can be made up. One might go on, in endless-chain fashion, naming men whose fame has reached from the Atlantic to the Pacific, for there are turf pillars, so to speak, on every hand.

PROBLEMS OF INTEREST TO ALL CHECKER PLAYERS

THE CHECKER COLUMN DEVOTED TO NEWS OF THE GAME OF DRAUGHTS AND PERSONAL NOTES OF THE EXPERTS

Contributors to this column should write upon one side of the paper only, and be careful to transcribe numbers properly. The Journal will be pleased to receive new games, positions, solutions and all news of interest to checker players. Such letters should be addressed to Rem A. Johnston, Oswego, Ind.

"The ideal checker aphorism seems to be, 'Always play to the center.' Don't do it 'always' because if your opponent knows Sturges he will let you have the center and bank for a long shot. This is a better single piece of advice—Trade your opponent down, holding the position in balance."

Rem A. Johnston.

The checker editor of the Sunday Indianapolis Journal was born in Ossian, Ind., Sept. 18, 1875. Shortly after birth he opened his eyes and asked for a checker board—at least that is the legend.

His checker experience has been a varied one. He learned to play "scrub" checkers from the devotees of the game in his native town; but, desiring a better knowledge of the sport, he early purchased books and soon reached a tolerable proficiency. Not being able to find strong enough players in his home town he took up book analysis and correspondence playing and at the present time claims to be the champion correspondent checker player of the State of Indiana. Even across-board he has seldom been defeated in a set series of games, and never within the last five years has he met a man who would conquer him.

During the years 1885 and 1886 he attended college at Crawfordsville, Ind., and was then considered the college champion. He was never defeated in a series during the two years he resided in that city and he met the best players in the city and from other towns around at the Y. M. C. A. In 1890 he played in Buffalo, N. Y., with a member of the New York Chess and Checker Club, defeating him rather easily. He has won in a hundred minor matches. Believing the Indiana has thousands of players who would be interested in the scientific aspects of the game he began to edit the present column, which he has since been able to do with interest and enthusiasm.

Mr. Johnston, at the present time, has a small book in the press called "Johnston's System of Correspondence Checker Playing." It is absolutely a new method of play which will bring the silent game into full public prominence with the thought of the future. He will tour the State next fall or winter in the interest of draughts.

In this week's column appears an original analysis by Mr. Johnston and his friend, the great Troy, N. Y., expert, Mr. Peter F. Connors.

JOHNSTON'S ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

What book has the best play on "Old Fourteen"?—J. A. C.

Would you advise a man to play 22-18 in reply to 11-17?—E. L.

Personally, I prefer 22-19; but John T. Denver, of Chicago, Lyman M. Stearns, of West Derry, N. H., and John F. Horr, of Buffalo, would tell you 22-18. Choose for yourself. My preference is based on my own record. I have seldom can do more than draw with 22-18, and I think that all the book play I have ever seen shows that 22-18 is a losing move. I have on it a greater number of variations to learn into the bargain. Each expert has his own interest in stating that 22-18 is a losing move. I have a knowledge of one or two experts who always play 22-18, which I consider a weak defense. Anderson preferred 22-19, having learned that most of the phenomenal players have relied on it. You will find that 22-18 will really lead to a greater variety of play which you will have to memorize than 22-19 if properly followed up.

"BRISTOL-CROSS."

(Connors's Line.)

An original analysis by Rem A. Johnston and Peter F. Connors.

Note.—The following development of "Bristol-Cross" is a tentative analysis of a line which henceforth must remain as an everlasting monument to the genius of the great "Troy," 22-18 expert, Peter F. Connors. The authors do not offer the following variations as flawless, but simply with the intention of presenting to you a line which they have practiced by Mr. Connors. In the future we shall elucidate the opening move fully, and is likely to state that 9-12 is a crushing blow to the 22-18 of Bristol, but this far we do go—9-12 is the strongest answer to Bristol-Cross, and as it is not found in the books we submit it to the fraternity with our compliments.

Rem A. Johnston.

22-18 9-12 2-6 15-6

9-14 (1) 10-15 6-9 20-24

10-15 13-10 11-12 20-26

10-15 13-10 (11) 22-23 20-26

(12) 22-17 26-10 22-17 26-22

22-17 11-12 7-14 22-31 6-12

10-15 13-10 22-23 20-26

16-20 11-15 31-16 (17) 9-14

24-19 26-22 22-10 18-9

15-12 13-10 22-23 20-26

27-23 22-15 19-16 2-7

15-14 22-13 (18) 19-13 18-9

15-14 22-13 22-23 20-26

4-8 13-24 11-15 9-6

22-22 9-5 11-7 21-17

Drawn. West Lothian Courier.

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1-5 22-18 18-14 9-5

21-26 26-22 3-7 6-9

Black wins. Rem A. Johnston.

20-24 10-17 7-10 9-13

15-12 22-23 20-26 26-17

24-28 12-19 6-9 13-22

22-18 22-16 13-6 26-17

14-18 22-21 22-23 9-9

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